HEALTH
A 30 MAY 57
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CLARE RURAL DISTRICT

in the

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF WEST SUFFOLK

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1955

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To the Chairman and Members

of the

Clare Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1955 on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Clare Rural District.

The Report is drawn up on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health.

The general health of the population has, so far, continued to be good.

Your obedient Servant,

G. P. BARCLAY

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS

(Figures in brackets relate to the previous year).

Area of the District	49,360 acres
Number of Parishes	24
Rateable Value	£39,070
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£157
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books	3011
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	9300
Population (1951 Census)	9406

SECTION B.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	(56) 54	(63) 59	(119) 113
Illegitimate	(4) 2	(2) 1	(6) 3
Totals ...	(60) 56	(65) 60	(125) 116

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population (crude) ...	(13.3) 12.5
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population (adjusted)	(15.7) 14.8
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales) ...	(15.5) 15.0
Illegitimate Birth Rate	(4.1%) 2.5%

STILL BIRTHS:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	(1) 4	(1) 1	(2) 5
Illegitimate	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -
Totals ...	(1) 4	(1) 1	(2) 5

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)... (16.0) 41.1

DEATHS:

Male	Female	Total
(58) 68	(57) 51	(115) 119

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population (crude)	(12.2) 12.8
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population (adjusted) ...	(9.9) 10.4
Death Rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)	(11.3) 11.7
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	(Nil) Nil

INFANT MORTALITY:

It can be expected that these rates will show considerable variation from year to year as the figures are relatively small.
Number of deaths of infants under one year of age:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	(-) 1	(1) 1	(1) 2
Illegitimate	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -
Totals ...	(-) 1	(1) 1	(1) 2

Death Rate of infants under one year of age:

(a) All infants per 1,000 live births	(8.1) 17.2
(b) Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	(8.6) 17.7
(c) All Infants England and Wales	(25.5)24.9

Rates for previous ten years:

	1945	-46	-47	-48	-49	-50	-51	-52	-53	-54	-55
Birth Rates	17.2	23.0	19.0	18.6	17.7	17.0	15.7	12.9	15.9	15.7	14.8
Death Rates	13.8	12.6	15.1	13.9	13.3	12.2	16.9	13.7	9.6	9.9	10.4

CAUSES OF DEATH

Disease	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis	(0) 0	(0) 1	(0) 1
Measles	(0) 0	(0) 0	(0) 0
Whooping Cough	(0) 0	(0) 0	(0) 0
Diphtheria	(0) 0	(0) 0	(0) 0
Cancer (all types)	(7) 9	(10) 7	(17) 16
Heart Disease (all forms) ...	(18)27	(12)25	(30) 52
Vascular Lesions of the nervous system	(6) 13	(10)7	(16) 20
Diabetes	(0) 0	(1) 0	(1) 0
Influenza	(0) 2	(1) 0	(1) 2
Pneumonia	(4) 5	(7) 6	(11) 11
Bronchitis	(0) 2	(0) 1	(0) 3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	(0) 1	(0) 0	(0) 1
Accidents (Motor Vehicle	(1) 0	(0) 0	(1) 0
Accidents (not motor vehicles)	(2) 2	(0) 0	(2) 2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	(20) 6	(17) 4	(37) 10
Suicide	(0) 1	(1) 0	(1) 1
Total	(58)68	(59)51	(117)119

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SECTION C.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY:

(a) Medical Officer of Health who also serves other districts (appointed 1st October 1950)

(b) Sanitary Inspectors.

Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. A. Smith (appointed 1st November, 1944).

Assistant Sanitary Inspector, Mr. C. Boulton (appointed 16th February, 1953).

HOSPITALS:

There are no Hospitals in the area.

SECTION D.

WATER SUPPLIES:

The area is supplied by the Council with water from three sources, being at Great Wratting, Depden and Hundon.

At Great Wratting, which is the chief source of supply, duplicate electric motors and pumps deliver water from two boreholes to a 750,000 gallon storage reservoir at Hundon Hall from which water gravitates to supply 19 parishes. This water is treated by chlorination at Great Wratting.

Recent analysis shows this water to be wholesome and fit for drinking purposes. Total hardness is 430 in parts per million.

Water to supply 5 parishes in the North of the area is drawn from a reservoir in the Thingoe R.D.C. area and boosted to your Tower at Depden Gate. Analysis shows this water to be wholesome and fit for drinking purposes with a hardness of 270 in parts per million.

The third supply is at Hundon from whence water is drawn from a borehole and pumped to the Stradishall R.A.F. Station. These works are maintained solely for this supply, but it is anticipated that in 1956 new boosters will supply the R.A.F. Station from the Hundon Reservoir.

Analysis shows this water wholesome and fit for drinking with a hardness of 370 in parts per million.

In addition to the above supplies the Council draw water from Haverhill U.D.C. to supply the Meldham Bridge area of Withersfield Parish.

Bulk supplies are afforded to Mildenhall R.D.C. (Dunstall Green area) and Haverhill U.D.C. (Wratting Road area).

A bore and reservoir at Stoke-by-Clare in the ownership of The Stoke College Estate affords a supply to between 80 and 90 houses in the Parish of Stoke-by-Clare. This water is chlorinated.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE:

The laying of sewers and building of disposal works at Clare commenced early in the year. This scheme is designed to accept sewage from the majority of houses in Clare and disposal works will also accommodate sewage from Cavendish. It is hoped to see a commencement of work at Cavendish as soon as possible, and other village schemes prepared with a view to sewers and works being installed in all villages where technical and financial implications render such schemes possible.

Existing nuisances and lack of modern conveniences in the majority of villages are a source of danger to health.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL:

One refuse vehicle is engaged in "Bin refuse" collection which takes place fortnightly in 14 parishes and monthly in the remaining part of the area. Collection takes place from 90% of the houses in the district.

Night soil from pail closets is collected from houses in Clare and Cavendish every fortnight and Closet Vaults at Clare are emptied by Contract labour.

A contract is in operation for the cleansing of cesspools on Council House sites every quarter.

Three refuse tips are in use at Kedington, Denston and Wickhambrook.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA:

The following is a statement of the number and nature of inspections made during the year under the various Acts, Orders and Byelaws in force within the area:-

Housing (Defects and Survey)	2127
Water Supplies	378
Drainage and Sewage Disposal	252
Infectious diseases and disinfestation	14
Rodent Control	157
Factories and Shops	83
Meat and Foods	263
Refuse Collection and Disposal	91
Nuisances (excluding housing)	19
Milk and Dairies	7
Byelaw administration	54
General (Caravans, Petroleum Spirit, Housing repairs)	353
Other matters	49

Procedure under the Public Health Act 1936:-

Housing complaints received (defects)	54
Informal notices sent to Owner	31
Statutory Notices served	7
Court Actions	3
Defects abated	41

Housing improvements carried out as the result of informal action:-

Internal and External improvements	31
Drainage and Sanitary Accommodation do.	7
Water Supplies	14

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD:

Milk Supply:

Designated licences in force. Supplementary - 4
Dealers - Nil

Ice Cream Premises:

No ice cream is manufactured in the area.
Nineteen premises are registered for sale of pre-packed ice cream.

Fried Fish Shops:

Only one is in use at Clare.

Offensive Trades:

There is one blood drying establishment at Little Wratting.

Meat and Foods:

Licensed Slaughterhouses 6
" Knackers Yards 2
" Slaughtermen 28

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	106	95	130,440	59
Number inspected	106	95	130,440	
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci. Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	132	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	Nil	46164 lbs. weight	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	3%	-	Not known.	
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned	Nil	-	35	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	190019 lbs. weight.	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1%	-	Not known.	
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1 (Dead Infection)	-	-	
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil (not necessary)	-	-	
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	-	-	

--- NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION ---

SECTION E.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Several cases of measles occurred during the year but fortunately the disease was of a mild type.

The incidence of other Notifiable diseases during the year 1955 remained low and calls for no special comment.

Infective Hepatitis is notifiable in this District. No cases were notified.

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

Disease	Under 1 year.	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10-14	15-24	25 and over.	Un-known Age.	Total
Scarlet Fever .	(-) 1	(-) 5	(5) 6	(9) 12	(-) 2	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(14) 26
Erysipelas	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -
Whooping Cough	(1) 1	(4) -	(10) 1	(3) -	(-) -	(1) -	(-) -	(-) -	(19) 2
Measles	(-) -	(1) 14	(4) 19	(8) 55	(-) 11	(-) 5	(-) 3	(-) 1	(13) 108
Pneumonia	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(1) -	(-) -	(1) -
Poliomyelitis	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -

SECTION F.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total all types
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
No. of cases on register at commencement of year	(17) 19	(10) 11	(27) 30	(4) 4	(3) 3	(7) 7	(34) 37
No. of cases added during year	(4) 4	(2) 5	(6) 9	(-) -	(-) 1	(-) 1	(6) 10
No. of cases removed during year	(2) -	(1) -	(3) -	(-) 2	(-) -	(-) 2	(3) 2
No. remaining on register at end of year	(19) 23	(11) 16	(30) 39	(4) 2	(3) 4	(7) 6	(37) 45

SECTION G.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47.- Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No case arose during the year calling for action in accordance with this Section of the Act.

S E C T I O N H

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1. of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	2	-	-	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	31	17	-	-	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	7	10	-	-	3
TOTAL		40	29	-	-	

2 - CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (3)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H. M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	9	5	5	-	1	-	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	-	-	-	-	-	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	-	-	-	-	-	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
Total		5	5	-	1	-	

PART VIII of the Act

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	M/c line No.	Section 110 No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c)
Making Wearing Apparel etc.	13	41
Box-making etc.	34	37
	Total	78

G.P. BARCLAY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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